

Appl. No. 10/609,386
Amdt. dated March 8, 2006
Reply to Office action of January 17, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13, 17, 18, 20-29, 30-32, 35-37, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e):

5 Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-13, 17, 18, 20-29, 30-32, 35-37, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Van Hook et al. (US 6,564,304, hereinafter referred to as "Van Hook") for reasons of record.

Response:

10 Independent claims 1, 12, 23, 30, and 36 have been amended to overcome these rejections. The claim amendments are explained below.

15 Claim 1 has been amended to add the limitations previously found in claim 8. Claim 8 had been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form. As such, claim 1 should be in allowable form.

20 Claim 12 has been amended to add the limitations previously found in claim 19. Claim 19 had been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, claim 12 should now be in allowable form.

25 As with claim 12, claim 23 has been amended to add the limitations previously found in claim 19. The cited prior art does not teach "respectively adding a predetermined increment value to the latency values corresponding to access requests in the request queue having associated queue priorities that are lower than the queue priority of the first access request", as is recited in claim 23. Therefore, claim 23 should now be in allowable form with respect to the cited prior art.

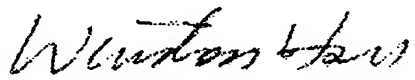
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5 Claim 30 has been amended to add the limitations previously found in claims 32 and 33. Claim 33 had been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, claim 30 should now be in allowable form.

10 Claim 36 has been amended to add the limitations previously found in claims 37 and 38. Claim 38 had been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, claim 36 should now be in allowable form.

In light of the amendments to the claims, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

15 Sincerely yours,



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Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526
P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.
20 Voice Mail: 302-729-1562
Facsimile: 806-498-6673
e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C.
25 is 13 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 10 PM in Taiwan.)